



# Activity



## 2017 CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL

Collect gift items, and fill wrapped shoe boxes or gift bags for disadvantaged families in your community, **to brighten their Christmas.**

**Before you start, know who you are collecting for!** Support a local Bright Space or local domestic violence and homeless shelters, children's homes and refugee centres; and find out the numbers, ages and genders of the people they are supporting. If you need help with this please email [twilkes-green@brighthorizons.com](mailto:twilkes-green@brighthorizons.com)

Display our posters asking your staff, parents, clients, suppliers and community to donate items to your collection and fill your wrapped shoe boxes and bags with gifts.

Secure the boxes with elastic bands and gift bags with tape, and label each one according to the gender and age it is for (under 2, 2-4, 5-7, 8-10, 11-13, 14-17, adult)

Arrange for your gift boxes and bags to be delivered or collected by your community partner to distribute in time for Christmas!

**Tips:** You could make a fun event of making up your gift parcels with your families, friends and colleagues! Involve children by asking them to decorate the boxes and make cards to put inside.

### Gift Ideas

**For children:** Pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, felt tips, paper, colouring books, craft activities, stickers, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, underwear, books, toy cars, games, balls, LEGO, dolls, small toys, balls, cuddly toys, puzzles, sensory toys, hair accessories and toiletries.

**For adults:** toiletries, make-up, accessories, hats, gloves, socks, scarves, hand mirrors, diaries, stationery.

*All items must be new and unused, and appropriate to the age of the individual the gifts are for. Please do not include war toys and consider the suitability of the items that are gifted.*



### Feedback from mothers in refuges who have received gifts from us:

"I really did not expect the gifts and thought it was really nice of people to give me something during this time. I so appreciated getting toiletries, especially when I had nothing when I arrived here, it has helped me a lot. Thank you!"

"This was the best Christmas we've ever had. My son was so excited and seeing him so happy and opening such great presents made a huge difference on this festive day"

"Really thankful for the joy you brought to my son through the really beautiful and really special presents we received. Thank you very much for all the support!"



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